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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Masahiro SHIMIZU, et al.

**CONFIRMATION NO.: 5342**

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Group Art Unit: TBA

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For: THERMAL PROCESSING APPARATUS

**FOURTH INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:


Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. 1.56, Applicants enclose an Information Disclosure Citation Form (PTO-1449) and a copy of the Japanese document cited therein.

It is respectfully requested that the cited document be considered by the Examiner in the above-identified patent application and that the cited document be made officially of record therein. It is further requested that a listing of the same appear on the face of any patent which may issue from this application

It is respectfully requested that the cited document be considered by the Examiner, that it be made officially of record therein, and that the document be listed on the face of any patent which may issue from this application. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in advance of the receipt of a first Office Action in this application. Therefore, it is believed that no fees are due under 37 C.F.R. Section 1.97(b)(3).

Respectfully submitted,  
SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP

By:

  
Michael A. Makuch, Reg. No. 32,263  
1130 Connecticut Avenue, Suite 1130  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
Telephone: (202) 263-4300  
Fax: (202) 263-4329

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